

Town Council Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2010

6:30 pm

Rebecca Mann, Absent

Lee Collins

Robert Miller, Absent

Frank Hill, Mayor

Keith Baynes, Town Attorney

Rich Taylor

Ron Francis

Sharon Weygand, Town Administrator

Valerie Walls, Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor Hill brought the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of minutes from February 8, 2010

MOTION: Lee Collins made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded to approve the minutes from February 8, 2011. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Announcements:

Frank Vari: Recycling is on the North Side this Saturday. The Second Annual 5K Run/Walk will be on June 26th on the Northside of Town, same as last year.

Ron Francis: St Patrick's Day Parade is on Saturday at Noon.

Lee Collins: This Sunday is Day Light Savings Time. Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour. Two months from now will be the deadline for Voters & Candidates Registration on May 7th. As long as your are a Maryland Resident and a registered voter, and you move to Chesapeake City, and reside here for 30 days, you do not have to do a separate registration with the Town. We also use the County registration list.

The Homestead Credit: You must re-enroll this year. The credit controls the maximum tax amount.

Certificate of Appreciation: Frank Hill presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Frank Vari for his work with the Town's Re-cycling effort including the 5K Run/Walks.

Commissioner Reports:

- Ron Francis Public Works
 Recycling
 Noise
 Water/Sewer- Artesian Report attached

The drain was put in today at Pell Gardens.

- Rebecca Mann Public Safety-Sgt Leas Report from Sheriff's Dept attached
 Charter
 Ethics

We are required to either adopt the County Plan for Emergency Management or create our own. We are planning on adopting the County plan, but that will be addressed later in the meeting.

- Rich Taylor P&Z Commission
 Historic Commission
 Parking Committee

There were no action items during the February P&Z meeting and no Parking Committee Meeting for March. Historic Committee had two action items, the Horizon application was denied because no one was present to answer questions. Information signs at 98 Bohemia

(Pell Gardens) and 104 Bohemia were approved. Discussion/Recommendations were made for changes in the Historic Regulations and they will be presented at the P&Z Workshop.

- Lee Collins Financial

For the Water & Sewer account, the projected income is at 77% and we have one more billing. The projected expenses are at 57%. We are hoping this will be the first year in a long time that the General Fund will not have to loan funds to the Water Sewer Fund to meet expenses. Part of this is due to the refinancing of the bond. The General Fund is close to the same with 73% of the projected income and 56% of the expenses. Most of the big items for income are posted.

- Bob Miller Parks & Recreation Committee

Bob is absent, however at the last Parks & Rec meeting they are discussing mulching/compost for the Town instead of being hauled out. Regarding the information board on the north side at the dock we are waiting for approval from the Corps of Engineers.

Office Reports:

- Sharon Weygand – Report attached
- Valerie Walls -P&L Report is included in the minutes book. Continuing to work on the Budget for FY 10-11. Malia is working with the MVA to get the outstanding traffic tickets taken care of. We are signing a contract with PNC to begin accepting credit card payments. Doris will be back on the 17th.
- Frank Hill – Mike is doing training for spraying of vegetation last week. Working with Mr. Gulick, but will get into that in Old Business.

Old Business

1. **Charter** – March Workshop: Looking for the top 5 to be changed. Typos are not an issue. The list needs to be sent out electronically to each Councilperson.

2. **Gulick Proposal**

Needed to add to #8 no overnight parking and/or equipment to be left overnight in the Park. #5- Suggestion to add Crepe Myrtle to the list.

MOTION: Lee Collins made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded to approve the Settlement Agreement between Joseph F. Gulick & Norma W. Gulick with the Town of Chesapeake City with the stated changes mentioned above. All in favor, motion carried.

Note: Keith to work with Mr. Gulick's attorney because of the lawsuit. Keith will email a corrected settlement tomorrow, the updated settlement will be in the Minutes Book.

3. **Event/Rental Form** – Suggested to change the Insurance question to "Do you have Event Insurance?" If the Town sponsors event 100% like the 5K we are covered. For the St Pat's Parade, we need a Certificate of Insurance because we are not sponsoring the event.

Councilperson Francis feels that the Town should cover the parades, because if someone is injured, the Town will be sued, regardless. The other events, Fall Fest, Canal Day, Bridal Shows are held on Civic Property. The St. Pat's Parade will be covered by the Civic Association insurance. Will discuss the definition of sponsorship at the next workshop. The Town wants to be listed as the Additional Insured on the insurance policy. Form will be updated as we go along.

3. **538 Biddle Street** – The Clerk Treasurer to contact the residents at 538 Biddle St for letter requesting the water/sewer base rate be waived.

New Business

1. Introduction of an Ordinance 3.8.2010.2 Permitting the Possession and Consumption of Beer in Pell Gardens on Canal Day.

MOTION: Lee Collins made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded, to approve Ordinance 3.8.2010.2 permitting the Possession and Consumption of Beer in Pell Gardens with the correction of the time being added (9am – 5pm). Ron Francis abstained. Aye 3 (Rich Taylor, Lee Collins, and Frank Hill). Nay 0. All in favor, motion carried.

Note: Item introduced at the February 2010 meeting.

2. Resolution 3.8.2010.1 for County Hazard Management Plan Approval

TABLED: Council will review the Plan at the March workshop. Will vote on in the April meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Water & Sewer Rates – Resolution 3-08-10

Increase will generate an additional \$17,500 in revenue. We are still not at a break even point.

MOTION: Lee Collins made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded to approve the increase in water & sewer rates. All in favor, motion carried.

2. Curbside Yard Waste Bid

Two bids, Junk-Bee-Gone and Delbert Kline. Maintenance person is not doing the work because we are not able to dump yard waste on the government grounds and the position is not full time as it was in the past.

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, Lee Collins seconded to accept the bid from Junk-Bee-Gone. All in favor, motion carried.

Ron will be asking JBG to throw in for free, the Sunday trash pick-up in Pell Gardens.

3. Curbside Single Stream Recycling Bid

Two bids received, Junk-Bee-Gone and Delbert Kline.

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, Lee Collins seconded, that we are acknowledging that Junk-Bee-Gone is the low bid. We are rejecting both bids based on cost and will renegotiate a lower price of \$400 per month with JBG. Contract will end June 2011. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT –Not verbatim

Harriet Davis: Wants to acknowledge the snow removal that Ron Francis did during the winter snow storms last month. He also has booked 8 bands for the Music in the Park this summer along with pledges to cover the costs.

Frank Vari: Regarding the discussions held about the insurance, the merchants are in hard times, like everybody else. The City needs to look in to being more pro-business and sponsor the parades.

Dean Geracimos: Thanking the Town for playground equipment installed at the Little League field, giving the kids somewhere to play other than around the dumpsters. Can you give us an update or a snap shot of the situation with the water/sewer grants?

Frank Hill: Artesian handled all the paperwork, Sharon has reviewed them, Jim Eder and URS reviewed it, to make sure we had everything in there. We turned in 6 applications.

Sharon Weygand: We have not heard anything back from MDE. Last year, they didn't get back to us until April. Regarding the USDA loans, the charter sets debt limits and time on a loan. We are in a Catch-22 situation. Council needs to review the charter and a proposed charter amendment that will be presented at the March workshop.

MOTION: Lee Collins made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm. All in favor; motion carried.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

D. Valerie Walls
Clerk/Treasurer

Frank Hill
Mayor